

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 139480
ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /015 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: IO/UNA:BJSHARP

APPROVED BY: IO/UNA:JFTEFFT

-----043522 020211Z /62

O 020040Z JUN 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 6998

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 139480

FOR AMB YOUNG FROM UNA

FOLLOWING REPEAT RABAT 3217 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO ABIDJAN,
ALGIERS, BRUSSELS, CAIRO, DAKAR, KINSHASA, LAGOS, LIBREVILLE,
MADRID, NOUAKCHOTT, PARIS, LUBUMBASHI, NIAMEY 01 JUN 78

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE RABAT 3217

E. O. 11562: N/A

TAGS: MO, CG, PEPR, MASS

SUBJ: VISIT OF PRESIDENT MOBUTU

REF: A. STATE 136208, B. LUBUMBASHI 616 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY. MOROCCAN RECEPTION OF ZAIRIAN PRESIDENT
MOBUTU DURING HIS MAY 19-20 VISIT WAS DISTINCTLY
MEASURED. EVIDENCE SUGGESTS THAT THE DISCUSSIONS WITH
THE KING WERE NOT EASY AND THAT MOROCCO PUT CONDITIONS
ON ANY MILITARY AID IT MAY OFFER -- INTERNAL REFORMS
IN ZAIRE AND MULTI-NATIONAL AFRICAN PARTICIPATION IN
ANY MILITARY ASSISTANCE. END SUMMARY.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 139480

2. MEETING WITH HASSAN. MOBUTU MET WITH KING HASSAN ON
MAY 19; HOWEVER IT IS CLEAR FROM MOBUTU'S PRE-DEPARTURE
PRESS INTERVIEW AND MOROCCAN MEDIA COVERAGE THAT THE
ATMOSPHERE WAS SOMEWHAT COOL. IN HIS INTERVIEW WITH
OFFICIAL NEWS AGENCY MAP, MOBUTU MADE ONLY GENERAL
REFERENCE TO THE LONG-STANDING FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE
TWO COUNTRIES. WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE CHANCES OF MOROCCAN

MILITARY AID IN THE NEAR FUTURE, HE RESPONDED "I BELIEVE THAT YOU KNOW THE PERSONAL POSITION OF HASSAN II AND ALSO THE POSITION OF HIS GOVERNMENT . . . THEY PREFER THAT THIS BE AN AFFAIR OF ALL COUNTRIES DEDICATED TO PEACE AND JUSTICE, NOT ONLY OF MOROCCO . . ." PARIS DOMESTIC SERVICE QUOTES SOURCES IN KING HASSAN'S ENTOURAGE AS STATING THAT MOBUTU WAS ASKED TO EMBARK ON SOME INTERNAL REFORMS, IF HE WANTED AID FROM MOROCCO AND OTHER COUNTRIES, WHILE LE MATIN DE PARIS QUOTED A SOURCE CLOSE TO THE KING AS SAYING "TODAY THE PROBLEM IS MOBUTU HIMSELF. HE MUST REVISE ZAIRE'S INTERNAL POLITICS." THESE THEMES ARE ECHOED IN OUR CONVERSATIONS WITH MOROCCANS HERE.

3. PRESS COVERAGE. MOROCCAN COMMENTARY ALSO REFLECTED THIS VIEW. DESPITE CRITICISM OF THE SHABA INVASION AND PRAISE FOR COMMON GOALS OF ZAIRE AND MOROCCO, THE SEMI-OFFICIAL PRESS AVOIDED ANY PRAISE OF MOBUTU HIMSELF, IN STARK CONTRAST TO COVERAGE DURING HIS LAST VISIT HERE IN MID-1977 THE OPPOSITION COMMUNIST (PPS) AND SOCIALIST (USFP) PRESS, WHICH CRITICIZED MOBUTU FOR HIS DOMESTIC PRACTICES WHEN THE FIRST REPORTS OF SHABA II ARRIVED, WERE PRACTICALLY SILENT ON THE VISIT, AS WAS THE PRESS OF THE ISTIQLAL PARTY, HEADED BY FOREIGN MINISTER BOUCETTA. THE SEMI-OFFICIAL AL-MAGHRIB AND LE MATIN AS WELL AS ISTIQLAL'S L'OPINION FRONT-PAGED EXCERPTS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 139480

FROM KING HASSAN'S WASHINGTON POST INTERVIEW, HEADLINING MOROCCO'S WILLINGNESS TO SEND TROOPS ONLY IF OTHER COUNTRIES DID THE SAME (SEE REF A).

4. MOROCCAN MILITARY PRESENCE IN ZAIRE. KING HASSAN STATED IN WASHINGTON POST INTERVIEW THAT THE GOM HAS SENT ONLY 30 MEN TO ZAIRE FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE MOROCCAN EMBASSY IN KINSHASA. HOWEVER, AFP AND THE ZAIRIAN NEWS AGENCY, AZAP, REPORT THAT TWO MOROCCAN MILITARY MISSION HAVE BEEN IN ZAIRE FOR THE LAST TEN DAYS -- "30 TECHNICIANS" TO MAINTAIN THE MILITARY MATERIAL GIVEN TO ZAIRE AFTER THE 1977 SHABA INVASION AND "50 PERSONS" TO FOLLOW "MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS" IN SHABA. ON MAY 30, SEMI-OFFICIAL AL-MAGHRIB REPORTED THAT MOROCCO HAD SENT 50 TECHNICIANS TO KOLWEZI TO STUDY NEEDS AND DEVISE AN EVENTUAL FORM OF ACTION. (EMBASSY NOTES REF B REPORTING ARRIVAL OF 30 GOM "TROOPS" IN LUBUMBASHI ON MAY 30.)

5. COMMENT: EMBASSY HAS NO RELIABLE INFORMATION ON THE ACTUAL NUMBER OF MOROCCANS IN ZAIRE, BUT WE BELIEVE IT IS SMALL. DESPITE TOTAL MOROCCAN AGREEMENT ON THE STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE

OF ZAIRE, MOBUTO HIMSELF IS GENERALLY VIEWED WITH RESERVE IN
RABAT. THE CAUTIOUS PUBLIC GOM APPROACH TO AIDING ZAIRE
MILITARILY REFLECTS A GENUINE CONCERN THAT IT NOT BE THE
ONLY AFRICAN STATE TO INTERVENE THIS TIME. IN THIS LIGHT,
ANY EARLY GOM MOVE TO COMMIT SIGNIFICANT FORCES WOULD SEEM
UNLIKELY. TWO KEY MEETINGS IN COMING DAYS WILL TAKE
PLACE, ONE IN PARIS ON JUNE 5 BETWEEN KEY WESTERN NATIONS
AND THE OTHER AT THE BEGINNING OF NEXT WEEK IN NIAMEY,
BETWEEN AFRICAN AND ARAB MINISTERS. GOM FONMIN BOUCETTA
WILL ATTEND THE LATTER AND CAN BE EXPECTED TO PURSUE HIS
CONSULTATIONS WITH HIS COLLEAGUES ON ZAIRE.
ANDERSON

UNQUOTE VANCE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 STATE 139480

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CHIEF OF STATE VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE139480
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: IO/UNA:BJSHARP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780230-0457
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197806102/aaaadjie.tel
Line Count: 136
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d614777c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 136208, 78 LUBUMBASHI 616
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2141899
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF PRESIDENT MOBUTU
TAGS: PEPR, MASS, MO, CG, (HASSAN II), (MOBUTU SESE SEKOU)
To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d614777c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014